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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

December 21, 2020

The Honorable Frank T. Brogan
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

Re: Washington State Title IV, Part A Waiver Request

Dear Assistant Secretary Brogan:

Thank you for contacting my office. I appreciate hearing from you.

I am writing to request a waiver on behalf of the state educational agency (SEA) and its subgrantees (i.e., local educational agencies (LEAs)), pursuant to section 8401(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), of one or more of the following requirements of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA.

The Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is requesting, on the behalf of all Washington state LEAs, the following waivers:

- Section 4106(d) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, related to LEA needs assessments for the 2020–21 school year.
- Section 4106(e)(2)(C), (D), and (E) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to content-area spending requirements for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2020 Title IV, Part A funds.
- Section 4109(b) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to the fifteen percent spending limitation for technology infrastructure for FY 2020 Title IV, Part A funds.

I am requesting this waiver due to the extraordinary circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, for which a national emergency has been declared by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. As a result of this health crisis, schools and communities are facing unprecedented obstacles as the 2020–21 school year begins.

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Providing additional flexibilities in the use of Title IV, Part A funds will advance student academic achievement by helping schools address their critical needs.

In seeking this waiver, I assure that:

- The SEA will use, and ensure that its LEAs use, Title IV, Part A funds in accordance with all other provisions of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, and all applicable regulations, program plans, and applications.
- The SEA has provided the public and all LEAs in the state with notice of, and the opportunity to provide comments on this request in the manner in which the SEA customarily provides such notice and opportunity to comment and has enclosed with this waiver request the comments received, if any, and a description of how the SEA addressed such comments.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris P.S. Reykdal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "R".

Chris Reykdal
Superintendent of
Public Instruction